



SLE Pen Portrait

Name: Kelly Bates

Current Position: Early Years

Current School: Willows Primary

SLE Specialisms:

EYFS
Phonics

Current Responsibilities:

My area of expertise is in Early Years and Phonics. I have supported a wide range of Early Years settings over the past 2 years and I am currently in the role of the Early Years Foundation Stage Leader, Phonics Leader and Reception teacher. Whilst in this role, I have led change within our 'outstanding' school to more child led approach through the influence from Anna Ephgrave's 'In the moment' play based and led ethos. Throughout my Early Years journey I have supported many EYFS practitioners, both new and existing, in my own school and in local provisions and settings through an Early Years Hub.

Leadership Experience:

I am a reflective practitioner who continually evaluates the practice and purpose of new initiatives to improve the teaching and learning for the next generation of children, teachers and leaders. Over the last 3 years I have created a synthetic, systemic approach to the teaching, delivery and assessment of Phonics from Nursery to Key Stage 1. My passion for early reading and writing has enabled all children to make accelerated, sustainable progress to support their reading and writing and prepare children for the Key Stage One Phonics Screening. After the implementation of our new ethos within the Early Years Setting, I have also led the change for transition to Key Stage One, using gap analysis, to provide a purposeful play based continuous provision that meets the needs of every individual child.